

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00229 01 OF 02 161826Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-10

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SAJ-01 OC-05 CCO-00 EB-07 OTPE-00 NSC-05 /090 W

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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 0229

SECDEF FOR ODTACCS (SYSTEMS)

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TAGS: ETEL MARR NATO

SUBJ: CONSOLIDATION OF COMMUNICATIONS - DEFINITION OF TERMS

REF: AC/270(WG/1)WP/48, JAN 15, 1976

SUMMARY: A LOCAL DRAFTING GROUP DEVELOPED DEFINITIONS FOR TERMS RELATED TO CONSOLIDATION AND OTHER RATIONALIZATION OF COMMUNICATIONS. THE JOINT C-E WORKING GROUP (JCEWG) WILL CONSIDER THESE AT ITS MEETING FRIDAY, JAN 23, 1976. REQUEST YOUR COMMENTS ON THESE DRAFT DEFINITIONS PRIOR TO OPERING OF BUSINESS JAN 23. END SUMMARY.

1. REF DOCUMENT PRESENTS PROPOSED DEFINITIONS DEVELOPED BY DRAFTING GROUP FOR USE IN PAPERS AND DISCUSSIONS PERTAINING TO CONSOLIDATION AND OTHER RATIONALIZATION OF COMMUNICATIONS. THE JCEWG WILL DISCUSS REF DOCUMENT AT MEETING ON JAN 23, 1976. (WE SENT COPIES TO WASHINGTON ON JAN 16, 1976.) KNOWING THAT A GROUP IN WASHINGTON ALSO HAS BEEN DEVELOPING DEFINITIONS IN THIS FIELD, WE REQUEST YOUR COMMENTS BEFORE JAN 23 MEETING ON THE ONES PROPOSED BY THE LOCAL DRAFTING GROUP.
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PAGE 02 NATO 00229 01 OF 02 161826Z

2. FOR THE FOLLOWING TERMS, THE DRAFTING GROUP ADOPTED THE DEFINITIONS CONTAINED IN THE NATO GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, AAP-6(M)1975:

- A. INTEROPERABILITY (OF COMMUNICATIONS)
- B. STANDARDISATION
- C. INTERCHANGEABILITY

3. WE QUOTE BELOW PORTIONS OF THE REFERENCE PRESENTING AND EXPLAINING DEFINITIONS WHICH THE DRAFTING GROUP ORIGINATED.

BEGIN QUOTE:

RATIONALISATION OF COMMUNICATIONS

4. RATIONALISATION OF COMMUNICATIONS IS THE ACHIEVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF AN ESTABLISHED LEVEL OF COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY FOR THE LEAST EXPENDITURE OF RESOURCES BY NATO AND BY ONE OR MORE NATO NATIONS ACTING IN CONCERT.

5. RATIONALE

THE APPEAL OF RATIONALISATION LIES IN ITS POTENTIAL FOR SYNERGISM, I.E. THE CAPABILITY OF TWO OR MORE ENTITIES ACHIEVING A COLLECTIVE EFFECT GREATER THAN THE SUM OF EFFECTS ACHIEVED INDEPENDENTLY. RATIONALISATION OF COMMUNICATIONS THUS CAN YIELD EITHER AN INCREASED CAPABILITY FOR THE SAME EXPENDITURE OF RESOURCES - MEN, MONEY AND MATERIAL - OR AN UNCHANGED LEVEL OF CAPABILITY BUT WITH A SMALLER EXPENDITURE OF RESOURCES; THE LATTER CONCEPT IS THE ONE THAT SHOULD BE APPLIED TO THE PROVISION OF NATO COMMUNICATIONS. THIS BRINGS IMMEDIATELY TO MIND: WHAT LEVEL OF COMMUNICATIONS ARE WE TALKING OF? IT IS PROPOSED TO USE THE EXPRESSION "ESTABLISHED LEVEL OF COMMUNICATIONS", LEAVING TO THOSE CONCERNED THE TASK TO ESTABLISH THE LEVEL IN PRECISE TERMS.

CONSOLIDATION
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 NATO 00229 01 OF 02 161826Z

6. CONSOLIDATION IS A FACET OF RATIONALISATION WHEREBY TWO OR MORE EXISTING AUTONOMOUS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES ARE COMBINED INTO A SINGLE ENTITY WITH SOME OF THE ORIGINAL AUTONOMY REMAINING.

7. RATIONALE

(A) CONSOLIDATION IS ONE WAY OF ACHIEVING RATIONALISATION. THE OXFORD DICTIONARY DEFINES "TO CONSOLIDATE" AS "TO COMBINE INTO ONE ENTITY".

(B) OFTEN, AND ESPECIALLY IN ALLIED COMMAND EUROPE, TWO OR MORE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES

ARE SO CONFIGURED THAT IT APPEARS LOGICAL TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY TO SHARE CERTAIN HILLTOPS, TO COMBINE INTO ONE TWO OR MORE SUPPORT ACTIVITIES, TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE OTHER PARTY A PORTION OF THE FACILITY, TO AGREE ON THE OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF THE COMBINED ELEMENTS. CONSOLIDATION THUS IMPLIES PROXIMITY OR EVEN CO-LOCATION OF FACILITIES THAT ARE SEPARATELY RUN AND THAT THE FACILITY, AFTER COMBINATION, LEAVES A PROPORTION OF THE ORIGINAL AUTONOMY REMAINING.

INTEGRATION

8. INTEGRATION IS A FACET OF RATIONALISATION WHEREBY TWO OR MORE EXISTING AUTONOMOUS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES ARE COMBINED INTO A SINGLE ENTITY WITH NO AUTONOMY REMAINING.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NATO 00229 02 OF 02 161842Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-10

NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15 TRSE-00

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 0229

9. RATIONALE

WHEN THE PROCESS OF COMBINATION INTO ONE ENTITY IS CARRIED THROUGH ALL THE PARTS OF BOTH COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, WHERE THE ORIGINAL AUTONOMY OF EACH FACILITY HAS COMPLETELY DISAPPEARED TO THE BENEFIT OF A CONTROL SYSTEM MUTUALLY AGREED BETWEEN PARTIES, ONE HAS REACHED THE LEVEL OF INTEGRATION OF COMMUNICATIONS.

INTERCONNECTION

10. (A) OF COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS

(1) TWO COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS ARE INTERCONNECTED WHEN IT IS POSSIBLE FOR SUBSCRIBER TRAFFIC TO PASS UNAFFECTED FROM ONE NETWORK TO THE OTHER.

(2) RATIONALE

WHEN ADDRESSING THE TERM "INTERCONNECTION OF COMMUNICATIONS" AS IS USED FOR EXAMPLE IN ALLA DOCUMENTS OR BY THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES IN RELATION TO THE ACE HIGH AND THE US SYSTEMS IN UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NATO 00229 02 OF 02 161842Z

EUROPE, IT WAS FOUND NECESSARY TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN TWO CASES: THE FIRST - WHICH IS ADDRESSED IN THIS PARAGRAPH - WHERE THE STRESS IS PUT ON THE NEED FOR SUBSCRIBER TRAFFIC TO RUN UNAFFECTED FROM ONE FACILITY TO THE OTHER, AND NOT SO MUCH ON THE TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS WHICH ALLOW THIS; AND THEREFORE, IT IS RECOMMENDED TO DISCUSS "INTERCONNECTION OF NETWORKS".

(B) OF TRANSMISSION MEDIA

(1) TWO TRANSMISSION MEDIA ARE INTERCONNECTED WHEN THEY ARE ELECTRICALLY CONNECTED AT CIRCUIT OR HIGHER LEVEL.

(2) RATIONALE

IN THE SECOND CASE ADDRESSED IN THIS PARAGRAPH, EMPHASIS IS LAID ON THE TRANSMISSION MEDIA BECAUSE WHAT IS AIMED AT IS THE PROVISION OF CHANNELS IN ONE OF TWO COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES TO THE BENEFIT OF THE OTHER, FOR PURPOSES SUCH AS REDUNDANCY SURVIVABILITY ETC., AND THEREFORE IT IS RECOMMENDED TO DISCUSS "INTERCONNECTION OF TRANSMISSION MEDIA". END QUOTE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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